

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/606,849

Examiner

Angela J. Martin

Applicant(s)

KELLY ET AL.

Art Unit

1745

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/21/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4 and 6.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached.
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                     |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____    | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                   |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please cancel non-elected, non-traversed claim 5.

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The Applicant claims an integrated self-cooling plant support module for incorporation into a fuel cell system including a fuel cell assembly, said module being disposed in an enclosure and being configured for drawing air from the exterior of said enclosure into the interior of said enclosure and to discharge air to the fuel cell assembly, said integrated module comprising: a) an inlet port in a wall of said enclosure; b) a motor mounted in said enclosure adjacent said inlet port; c) a blower mechanically connected to and driven by said motor and being in communication with said air distribution system; d) an electronic control module mounted adjacent said motor; e) a first shroud positioned within said enclosure and surrounding said electronic control module and, said first shroud being open at one end to said interior of said enclosure and being connected at the other end

Art Unit: 1745

to a second shroud; and f) a said second shroud positioned within said enclosure and surrounding said motor and, said second shroud being connected at one end to said first shroud in series and being open at the other end to said blower, solid-oxide fuel cell system, comprising an integrated self-cooling plant support module, said module being disposed in an enclosure and being, configured for drawing air from the exterior of said enclosure into the interior of said enclosure and to discharge air to said fuel cell assembly, said integrated module including an inlet port in a wall of said enclosure, a motor mounted in said enclosure adjacent said inlet port, a blower mechanically connected to and driven by said motor and being in communication with said air distribution system, an electronic control module mounted adjacent said motor, a first shroud positioned within said enclosure and surrounding said electronic control module and, said first shroud being open at one end to said interior of said enclosure and being connected at the other end to a second shroud, and a said second shroud positioned within said enclosure and surrounding said motor and, said second shroud being connected at one end to said first shroud in series and being open at the other end to said blower.

In the prior art of record, Faville et al., U.S. Pat. No. 6,562,496 B2, teach an integrated self-cooling plant support module for incorporation into a fuel cell system including a fuel cell assembly, the module disposed in an enclosure having an air distribution system.

However, the prior art of record, taken either alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious, an integrated self-cooling plant support module disposed in

Art Unit: 1745

an enclosure, the module including a first shroud positioned within the enclosure and surrounding an electronic control module, and a second shroud positioned within the enclosure and surrounding a motor.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Angela J. Martin whose telephone number is 571-272-1288. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick Ryan can be reached on 571-272-1292. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 1745

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AJM



PATRICK JOSEPH RYAN  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER